

Southmead Primary School

Wrafton Road, Braunton, North Devon. EX33 2BU.
T: 01271 812448 E: admin@southmead.devon.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr Nicholas Plumb

Southmead School Newsletter Issue 14 - December 2018

Coming Up.....

Monday 17 th Dec	Christingle Service 6.30pm at St. Brannocks	Year 3
Tuesday 18 th Dec	Carol Service 10am at St. Brannocks	KS2
Tuesday 18 th Dec	School Christmas Dinner Day	All
<i>Please note: there will be no KS2 break time toast or lunchtime jacket potato option on Tues 18th</i>		
Wednesday 19 th Dec	Non-Uniform Day	Watson House

Wednesday 19th December AUTUMN TERM ENDS

Happy Christmas!

Head Teacher News

What a chilly end to the week. Christmas has certainly arrived at Southmead! This week, we have had our fantastic Year 1 and 2 Nativity performances - It's A Baby! I have to say how proud I was of all of our children. They had learnt their lines, practised all of the songs (which included a variety of new and traditional tunes), dressed the part and what's more...they REALLY had fun and enjoyed themselves! I would also like to thank all of my staff for their hard work in pulling everything together and you, their parents and carers, for providing the costumes, helping pupils learn their lines and listen to them hum the tunes at home. It was a true 'team' effort and the efforts were truly rewarded. So much so, that we have been asked to perform at the Village Community Carol Service, Carols On The Green, in Braunton, today, at 6pm.

As a result of the collections at the end of the performances, we raised £226! These funds will go straight back into the Music budget to purchase new instruments for music lessons - so thank you very much. Year 1 and 2 Nativity pictures will be printed in the North Devon Journal's festive section next week.

Tuesday saw us welcome Mr Page, the Headteacher from Caen Primary School, on a Learning Visit around our school. This is the next stage of a collaborative working plan, as I visited Caen last week and have future visits with Kingsacre scheduled too. I was extremely proud to show Mr Page around our school and the comments he made during his visit were very positive. Mr Page said that, '... The office staff were friendly and welcoming and had clear safeguarding procedures for visitors.' He was also very

impressed with the effectiveness of our behaviour policy and the house point rewards system. He commented on the pupils having high expectations for themselves and how the children were all very engaged in their learning as he walked around the school. During playtime, Mr Page noted that our children were active and positive, whilst comfortable to approach both of us in a polite and respectful manner. I would like to thank Mr Page for his lovely comments and look forward to working with him more in the future.

This week, you may have also seen the new wooden building going up in the Junior playground. This is to replace the wooden pergola that once stood in a similar position but was past its best. There are sides still to be added and then the children will be able to eat their packed lunches out under the shelter (when it warms up a bit) and play board games with their friends during lunch.

On Thursday, some of our brilliant pianists display their skills during assembly. I think everyone would agree, they were amazing. They showed our school values in abundance and the children sat beautifully and respected their friends' performances. I think they were all amazed just how good they were!



As I write, we have been busily preparing for our Christmas Fayre. This is no easy task and I would like to thank our invaluable Southmead Friends' Association. The children enjoy the festive experience and it really does bring our school community together. In addition to this, it raises invaluable funds to enhance our children's learning. This term already has seen purchases such as the lunchtime play equipment, new resources to support Reception's language and communication developments, 34 new laptops for whole class learning across the curriculum, supported funding for class tablets to enhance teaching and pupil interaction are just a few areas. We are also working with the SFA to fund monkey bars for the playground. I can't wait! Our children are very lucky to have such a supportive school community.

The last two days will see us celebrate as a whole school for Christmas Dinner Day (on Tuesday). Kevin Lymer, our school chef, will be in early basting the turkeys, ready to serve the largest numbers of school dinners of the year! Our MTAs, teachers and teaching assistants, will be helping to ensure each sitting runs as smoothly as possible whilst also enjoy dinner with their class. Crackers have been ordered and I have been

amazed by the team effort from all of my staff - it should be a truly magnificent experience.

The last day provides an opportunity to celebrate this term's house point winners - Watson (Blue). We have released this in the here first with the hope of engaging more readers as the Newsletter is such a crucial tool for our school communications. To support this further, we have developed a school app... watch out for further details in the new year.

It just leaves me to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

I look forward to welcoming you all back in January 2019 - although I hope we all make the most of the time off with our families and friends!

Mr Nick Plumb

Star of the Week for week ending Friday 14th December

KS1

0 Hermit Crabs	0 Starfish	1 Shrimps	1 Periwinkle	2 Sandpipers	2 Kittiwakes
Jack G	Jules W	Skye D	Lily B	Freddie S	Mia B

KS2

3 Curlews	3 Puffins	4 Porpoises	4 Dolphins	5 Otters	5/6 Grey Seals	6 Blenny
Marla S	Eyram D	Pixie R	Santana M	Ellie B	Isabel H	Alfie B

Golden Table for week ending Friday 14th December

KS1		KS2	
Sebastian G	1SHR	Jessica G	3CUR
Sophia D	1SHR	Tom F	4DOL
Jasmine B	1PER	Paul R	5OTT
Freddie M	2KIT	Phoebe K	5OTT

Lunchtime Class for the week ending Friday 14th December

KS1	KS2
2Kittiwakes	4Dolphins

Class Attendance % for week ending Friday 14th December

KS1

0 Hermit Crabs	0 Starfish	1 Shrimps	1 Periwinkle	2 Sandpipers	2 Kittiwakes
97.72	98.25	99.35	94.83	94.55	88.26

KS2

3 Curlews	3 Puffins	4 Porpoises	4 Dolphins	5 Otters	5/6 Grey Seals	6 Blenny
93.85	93.46	97.86	92.5	95.81	95.76	89.67

Crowdfunding

Thank you to the people who have donated to our Crowdfunding Project. Mr Starling and Mrs Horton have made very generous donations which have made a great start to our fund. If you could donate to our project we would be very grateful. If you are unable to donate, we would very much appreciate if you could share the information as far and wide as possible. Social Media is a great platform to share to lots of people. (The link is <https://rocket.fund/p/southmeadICT/>). The ICT equipment that we are fundraising for will be of great benefit to all pupils across the school.

Data Collection Sheets and Attendance Certificates

Just another reminder that these will be going home with all pupils next week. Please check, amend, sign and return the data collection sheet to the school office (even if there are no changes). Everyone will have received a Privacy Policy for pupils and parents, however copies are available from the school office or can be viewed on the school website.

<https://www.southmead.devon.sch.uk/documents-and-policies>

The attendance certificate will state your child's individual attendance for your information only. These will be sent to all children no matter what their % attendance as we feel it is important to keep you notified regularly.

Costume Swap Bin

Do you have any fancy dress costumes your child no longer wears or has grown out of? Are you looking for a costume for the Nativity and/or Christmas parties? If so we are going to put a Costume Swap Bin outside the school office for you to drop off unwanted items and swap them for ones you need. If you would like to contribute £1 for items taken, the school office will ensure it goes towards the Christmas festivities for your children ☺

PE Kit

We would be grateful for any donations of PE kit that your children have grown out of, for our spare PE kit stores in school.

Parent View


Parent View gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think about your child's school, from the quality of teaching to dealing with bullying and poor behaviour. The survey can be completed at any time; you don't have to wait until the school is being inspected. The information you provide will be used when making decisions about which schools to inspect and when. Click 'Give your views' to register and complete a survey to help your child's school improve.

www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk

Winter Challenge - Children's University

Winter Challenge 2018



Get Crafty! Make origami Christmas figures: http://bit.ly/2zvQRbs	Christmas Holiday! Make a poster explaining another country's Christmas traditions	Get Baking! Find inspiration here: http://bit.ly/2Dyn2eq	Get Writing! Write a Christmas poem
	Shake it Up! How many words can you make with the letters from the word RUDOLPH?	Get dancing! Choreograph a dance to your favourite Christmas song	Science! Carry out a dissolving candy cane experiment: http://bit.ly/2Q6y6Ri



Collect extra Children's University credits during the Christmas break by completing this challenge. Each activity is worth 1 credit, when you take evidence of your activity to your teacher or local CU. This could be a photograph, video, a work sheet, or writing about what you did! Any questions? contactus@childrensuniversity.co.uk

1 book = 1 stamp, so 3 available in total.

Geminid Meteor Shower

If you are out singing Christmas carols later on tonight, keep an eye on the night sky. The Geminid meteor shower should be visible later this evening! Happy star-gazing!